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Date: June 5, 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Mellino".

Sean Mellino

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Thomas Hille, et al.

Serial No. : 10/584,477 (Conf. No. 3321)

Filing Date : June 23, 2006

Examiner : Ophelia Althea Hawthorne

Group Art Unit : 3772

Title : WOUND DRESSING AND ADHESIVE WOUND
DRESSING COMPRISING A VASOCONSTRICTIVE
INGREDIENT, AND PROCESSES FOR THE
PRODUCTION THEREOF

Attorney File : RO4283US (#90568)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Reply to Office Action Issued May 13, 2009

Dear Sir:

Claims 1-23 and 25-47 are pending in the instant application. The Examiner has concluded that restriction to one of the following groups is necessary.

Group I - Claims 1-8 and 25-31, drawn to a wound dressing.

Group II – Claims 9-15, drawn to an adhesive wound dressing.

Group III – Claims 16-17, 33-34, 36-37 and 42-43, drawn to a process for producing a wound dressing.

Group IV – Claims 18, 44 and 46, drawn to a process for producing an adhesive wound dressing.

Group V – Claims 19-22, 32, 35, 45 and 47, drawn to a different process for producing an adhesive wound dressing.

Group VI – Claim 23, drawn to use of a wound dressing.

Group VII – Claims 38-39, drawn to a different wound dressing.

Group VIII – Claims 40-41, drawn to another adhesive wound dressing.

The Examiner states in the Office action that the inventions listed in the aforementioned groups do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the species lack the same or corresponding special technical features. In particular, the Examiner states that the special technical feature is a wound dressing for treating bleeding wounds comprising adrenaline which is taught in the GB 1161528 teaching of a treatment of wounds with a dressing comprising a swab soaked in a solution containing adrenaline. Therefore, the Examiner concludes that there is no special technical feature that makes a contribution over the prior art and unity is lacking.

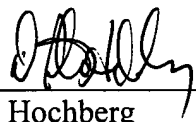
The Applicants object to the instant restriction requirement, *with traverse*. It is respectfully submitted that the GB 1161528 fails to teach the process of the presently claimed invention. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the present restriction

requirement be withdrawn.

The Applicant hereby elects Group III (which reads on claims 16-17, 33-34, 36-37 and 42-43), drawn to a process for producing a wound dressing for further prosecution on the merits thereof.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if there are any remaining issues to be discussed which could expedite the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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